

Surviving The Storm

Preparation Guide For Beginners To Experienced

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This book is dedicated to my mother and father who both taught me the importance and techniques of survival. To my husband who is as well versed and survival minded as I am and who helped me with this book. To the Armed Forces who live in survival situations everyday so that the rest of us do not have to. And to the men and women who serve as police officers, fireman, and emergency responders who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

Tornadoes, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, domestic and foreign conflict...disastrous events happen every day in our world. You just need to open a newspaper or turn on the news to see the various situations that many endure where survival abilities and knowledge are essential. A growing number of reality survival tv shows such as Naked and Afraid are a testament to the world's desire to know and understand the importance of survival techniques and being prepared.

While there are many methods and ideas for survival, this book is intended to teach you the basics of preparing for any disastrous situations that you may encounter. Geared for the inexperienced or beginning learner, this instructional guide is a great addition to the collection of even the most knowledgeable of survival experts. Use it to teach yourself, teach others, or even as a guideline or reminder in the future. Whatever you use this book for, it would help you and others survive situations easier and less stressful in the end.

Please bear in mind, this is not a FULL instructional on survival techniques. There are thousands of methods and ideas out there and I encourage you to explore them all. Find what works best for you and your family to ensure that in any situation...you are prepared to survive. This book is primarily a "jumping off point" to help you to move forward in your survival preparations.

To make this guide easier to follow (and to make it easy to use as a checklist in the future), I have divided this book into stages rather than chapters. There are 4 basic stages in the preparation process Stage 1: Information, Stage 2: Gathering, Stage 3: Learning, Stage 4: Maintenance. Before someone can argue what should happen in what stage, the stage list is not definitive. It is merely a guideline, nothing more. If you are a survival instructor, feel free to relist the stages as you see fit for your students. In which order these are done is not important,

only that it is done. If you feel that I may have missed some information, please feel free to email me at duwhqbz@gmail.com anytime so that we can discuss other ideas that I may incorporate into this instructional for the future. You would be accredited for the additional information and it will create a future, more complete, instructional book that could potentially save lives.

Now, remember, as stated before, these are NOT the only methods or ideas out there. These are just the basics to get you started. While reviewing each stage, try looking up other methods that can be used.

Stage 1: Information

Strangely enough, this is the hardest stage in the preparation process. Even for the most experienced, it can be a bit difficult. There are many steps in the preparation process but, the first step is the most essential. This is the stage where you will need to determine what you have, what you need and what you can use.

What do you have?

To start this process, you first want to determine what it is you already have. This will save you lots of time and money throughout your preparations. You will be amazed at how many items you already keep in your home on a regular basis.

Find a nice quiet space for you to write (or type) down information. This is essential because you will need to be able to concentrate. If need be, wait until you are alone in the home. You may even need to get up and walk around the house as you do this part. So make sure that whatever you are using (notepad paper, legal pads, electronic device) is easily portable.

You are going to start by making a list. Think about what you already have in your home. Things like safety pins, tampons, toilet paper, etc.... Think outside the box. Write down what you have, how much of it you have, expiration dates if any, and (if you plan to keep them where they are rather than storing them) where they are located.

Keep in mind there may be items that you would not consider for survival situations, such as toothbrushes and toothpaste. So if you are unsure of how it will help you, look up uses for that item outside of normal use. For instance, super glue can be (and has been) used to seal up and sterilize minor to medium wounds. Stuff like tampons and sanitary napkins can be used for wound care or water filtration. There is a slew of videos and how to articles on the internet that explain various different out of the box ideas for the use of everyday items.

If you are drawing a blank, that is OK too. Don't stress yourself out. Look around on the internet for others list. I encourage you, however, to create your own, if not now...then in the future when you become more knowledgeable in the process. This is because what may not be essential for someone else, may be essential for you. It all depends on your needs. For instance, I'm allergic to sunblock. So I would not have this item on my list, however, if you have fair skin and no allergy to sunblock...you may want to have this item on your list. Whereas I am diabetic...having syringes, glucose monitor, and insulin is essential to my survival. If you are not diabetic...you would not have these items.

Make sure you try to be as organized as possible when doing this or you will only stress yourself out. Use whatever is the best method for you in cataloging your supplies. You can categorize based on the room it is in (bathroom, kitchen, bedroom....) or categorize them by their use (medical, food, seeds...). Find the easiest method for you to use. This will be determined mostly by your method of storage of course.

Later I will explain the different methods of storage, but for now, just decide one of two. Are you storing it in a central location together or are you leaving them where they are in the house. Once you decide that, you know the best method for you to organize your list.

Now that you have your list of "items on hand", you can compare your list with other survival list that you may find elsewhere. This list is your "inventory". What you would do with this "inventory" will happen in Stage 2: Gathering...but we are not exactly done with Stage 1 as of yet. There is one last thing you would need to do at this Stage.

What do you need?

You have your list of what you have, now you need a list of what you need. This may take a bit of time and research for this part. The only thing I advise is, do not get caught up in buying everything you see. This can get very costly. Research all the information you can about everything that catches your interest. Weigh in the cost of the item versus its need for your survival. If it is something you strongly feel you would not end up using or is essential to you, don't get it. Not everything is a good idea. For example, if you live in an area that has limited wind...a wind turbine may not be to your advantage. Therefore, it would be a wasted expense. Plus you have to keep in mind, where are you going to put it. If you are planning to build a large storage bunker and have space, then, that is at your discretion. But otherwise, it is always best to follow K.I.S.S (Keep It Simple, Stupid!).

Other Items of Interest

When making your list, there are items that most people do not bother to think of that are an essential part of survival. These items are bartering items. In survival situations, there are times when money is not available but someone may have something you are out of or did not think to store. Having "extra" items in your storage may be a lifesaver in that instance. You can barter excess supplies you may not need or extra miscellaneous items that another person may be attracted to. Some items that come to my mind that are small yet a good bartering tool is fishing hooks, sewing needles, pain relievers (over the counter), even socks can be a good bartering tool. So when making your list, make a list of items you can add extra amounts of or can get to put to the side for such situations.

Once you have done the research on the items you may need and make your lists, you can move along to Stage 2 which is the gathering phase.

Stage 2: Gathering

This is the stage that never truly ends. You would continuously gather items to fill your stores and find new items to replace the old items at this stage but may continue to gather as you move along through the other stages. This could be due to finances and/or time you have available or new ideas may come about that did not exist before. Some of the items that you currently do not have, you may not have the finances to get in the beginning. So, if you are unable to complete your gathering stage from the start...don't worry. Just get what you can for now and move along to the next stage. You can continue to add to your inventory while you go through remaining stages.

Where to start?

Before you can begin gathering you will have to determine where you will be placing the items OR if you are going to leave them where they are. I personally have a separate inventory for my survival than I do from what is in my home. I own 40 acres of land and have a specific bunker where my survival supplies are kept. So many of the items I have, I own two of. However, you may not have the finances to be able to do this. Over time, you may be able to purchase extra items...but until then, if you have only one of an item that is used in the home, keep it in its current location and just put next to it on the list its location. If in an emergency situation and you are in need of the item, refer to your list as to where its location is. That will save you a lot of time scrambling around to locate the item at the moment when your head may not be on straight.

If you chose to keep all your items in a specific place, make certain that the location is easy to keep clean, dry, and accessible. Take into consideration all scenarios based on your area before deciding the best option. This would be determined by location and space availability. For instance, let's say you live in a flooding area. You are preparing for a possible future flood. You live in a small single story home, with a root cellar. You would not want to store your items

in the root cellar in wood or cloth. You would want to keep your items in the highest part of the house, such as the crawl space, in airtight waterproof containers. Otherwise, when the floods come you will either be unable to get to your supplies or they will be destroyed.

Storage Options

There are various storage options and which you decide on will be greatly determined by financial capability as well as space availability and disaster possibilities. Here are a few storage options that will work for those who have space limitations or for easy organization.

Plastic tote: Plastic totes can be purchased for relatively cheap, depending on how big you are looking for or the thickness of the plastic. Most can be purchased with a tight fitting lid which will keep its contents safe.

Typically (depending on the contents) I place the items within the tote into airtight bags. You can buy large double locking food storage bags for this purpose and just push the air out the corner before completely sealing it. This will protect the tote's contents from moisture if the lids do not snap on airtight.

You can write on the top of the tote its category of contents or a list of its contents with a sharpie so you remember what's inside. This tote can be stored anywhere in the house where it is easy to access such as in the closet.

These are a great method for most weather situations, however, not so much if you are preparing for wildfires. If you are in a wildfire area, you may want to use a different method of storage which may be a bit more costly, a fire/water proof safe.

Safes: These can get costly depending on their size, but if you are in a fire prone area, they may be the best option. There are various types of Safes that can be bought and many are both fire and water proof. If you live in a fire prone area, fire and the substances used to put them out are a big concern. To protect your supplies (and any precious items you own) you want a safe that is designed to withstand these elements.

The best place to keep the safe is in the open near an exit. When warning of a wild fire happens your supplies are easily accessible and during evacuation (time permitting of course) you can grab several of your most precious items to store within the safe just before high tailing it to safety. When you return to your home, those items along with your supplies will be safe regardless if your home is still standing or not.

Suggestion: Safes usually have combination locks. In a disaster situation, you may not be in your right state of mind. Across the country there are kiosks where you can purchase tags with information engraved in them for cheap. Have the tags made up for everyone in your family with pertinent information engraved in them along with the combination of any locks you have. For instance, mine has my full name, blood type, I'm diabetic, and the combination number of my gun safe on it. I wear it at all times around my neck on a choker chain so that it does not come off unless I take it off.

Note: Never leave your larger safe doors open! Especially if you have animals or children. They can get locked inside and they are AIRTIGHT. They can suffocate inside before you even know they are in there. If the door is open, make certain someone is guarding that door at ALL times and check before shutting it for the whereabouts of all children and animals.

Wooden Box (chest): I do not typically recommend using a wooden box, however, it may be all you have access to. It is pretty similar to storing in a plastic tote, but, you would want to place contents into airtight bags to keep the contents safe and place it in a very dry location. I usually recommend that if you have to use these, to place these in the crawl space of your house or wherever it is driest. You may also want to modify the box a bit to make it more secure. Ever heard of Flex Seal®. A friend and I have tested it and it works wonders. You can use the tape or the paint, both work like they are advertised. We used the black tape to line the inside of a wood box and dropped it into the water. It held beautifully. Not sure how it will hold up to rodents and insects, but that is what the last stage should help with.

Bug-Out-Bag: Bug-Out-Bags are actually a pretty awesome way to store supplies. I usually recommend that regardless of your other survival storage preferences, you should have one bug-out-bag per person (and animal) in the household as well.

If using this method, you want to have at least one that has a little of everything in it just in case you need to hightail out of the area. Then create one bag per category of items to store in the home.

The best bags to use are large backpacks, most especially the kinds hikers use. They have lots of space and allow for some bit of organization. Typically (though not always so make sure you check) are very weatherproof and rugged. They even have some with a smaller backpack attached that can be used for smaller items or for your pets supplies.

These bags can be stored anywhere in the home. I always recommend that the one with the mixture of stuff be kept as close to an exit as possible or an easy quick access point in case you have little time to evacuate.

Car Top Travel Containers: Sounds strange, but these jokers are made to take a "lickin' and keep on tickin'". There are several kinds out there but they come in two main types Hard Case or Bag. Either or will do and both are reliable for storage. However, keep in mind, the bag may fit in a small box but it expands to fit the roof of a car. So make certain you have a place that will accommodate it.

You can use smaller containers and place them inside to keep your supplies organized but if you are not able to afford them, you can still put everything in until you can. They are designed to resist all weather conditions and sealed to prevent water from getting in. The only downside is finding a place to store them.

Proceed to collect

Gather all your items you have on hand around the home first by placing them in categories. First Aid Items in one category, Hunting/Defensive items in another category, so forth and so on.

As you gather these items, you want to keep a list of the items you have and how many. If you are keeping them in the home, put on the list where the item is located. You will keep this information with your survival inventory or an easy to see location and refer back to it frequently. I will talk more on this later in the book under Stage 5: Maintenance. For food, medicine, and seed storage, it is a slightly different matter so you will not gather food, medicine, or seeds with your regular inventory.

Note: I did not mention this before because not many people have the funds to do this but the method I use for my own "on hand" inventory book is that I type and print my

items list. I then laminate the page punching holes in it for it to be held by a binder. Then, instead of using a pen, I use colored wax pencils that can wipe off the laminate. Do not use "wipe off" markers. They dry over time and stain the laminate. This allows me to change the "amount" of each item as it changes so that I always have an accurate count. If you are able to afford to do this, I believe this to be the best option as inventory does change over time.

Label your containers using a permanent marker so you know what they are. Organization is essential when it comes to survival. You don't want to have to go nuts trying to find something in an emergency situation, especially when someone's life is on the line.

Once you're on hand items have been stored, you then work on obtaining the items you need to get. Adding them to your inventory as you obtain them and adding them to your permanent list.

Food, Water, Medicine, and Seeds

I am creating an entirely different section for these items because storage is slightly different.

There is much more involved in their storage not to mention what types of food you can store.

You would not store a roast chicken for instance unless it is freeze dried. Whereas beef jerky is a good storable food, for a limited time in a cool dry place.

First off, when listing these items...not only do you need to show how many you have, but their expiration date as well. All food, medicine, seed, and (contrary to popular belief) water items have a shelf life.

Food: Your stored food should contain non-perishable foods, that is to say, they do not need refrigeration and can last a long period of time before needing to be used. For instance, a bag of rice is non-perishable whereas bread is not unless it is dehydrated and airtight sealed. There are companies that provide emergency food such as Wise Food Company and Augason Farms that you can purchase. Some of which are actually available even in your local stores for decent prices. These items are freeze-dried to increase their shelf life.

There are also many products that have a long shelf life that you can buy at your local grocery store. Things like Rice a Roni and canned vegetables and meats are a good start. Just look at the expiration date of the food you are interested in purchasing. The foods with the longest shelf life are what you want to stock up on.

Note: A debate prompted me to add this tidbit. There are a lot of bulk canned goods and condiments you can purchase that are good for emergency storage. However, whether or not they are a good idea to purchase for emergency purposes is another matter. If you have a large family, then it may be feasible. But keep in mind, once opened they need to

be used right away or stored in a container in the refrigerator. Otherwise, it will go bad and make everyone sick. So, if you are unsure, it may be best to just stock up on regular size cans rather than the bulk.

They say that you want to purchase at LEAST enough food for three meals a day for 7 days per person, however, you can stockpile for as long a period as you like.

While you are storing away your food, you want to keep the ones that expire first in the front of the shelf or on top if storing them in containers. You want to buy what you know is both filling and nutritional. You would not want to stockpile a bunch of snack cakes though they taste good, they are not filling nor will help you with survival. You also want to store food based on how long a period of time you want to be able to store them for. We will talk more about that in Stage 4: Maintenance. You want these items to also be stored in a cool, dry area and as accessible as possible.

Some choose to make their own emergency foods. One fellow survivalist I know actually creates whole meals that he freeze-dries and seals in vacuum bags. However, he also has a high paying job making and was able to afford a freeze-dry oven. Don't fret if this is the option you were hoping for but can't afford the freeze-dry oven. While it is much more ideal to freeze-dry your food, you can still make your own with a household dehydrator. Just make certain that you follow the instructions manual for the machine and how to use it. You can fully dehydrate your meats, vegetables, and fruits for storage. Follow the recommended dehydrated shelf life in the manual as well. Using a Sharpie, be sure to write the expiration date on the container they are in as well as what they are. Some things don't look the same after dehydration.

Water: The reason I am talking about water separately is that 9 out of 10 people do not know that water does have a bit of a shelf life. Not that it goes bad exactly but you are less likely to want to drink it when it has been sitting for a long period of time. Water that you buy already bottled last longer than water that you bottled yourself, but over time water becomes “stale” or evaporates if not sealed properly. It develops a funny taste and smell that people find very unpleasant.

Seeds: Contrary to popular belief, seeds for planting DO have a shelf life. Look on the package of the seeds you just bought and you will see a “best used” date for them. The longer seeds remain unused, the less likely they are to germinate. I typically advise people not to keep them in storage longer than a year...but don't just toss them out! Seeds are highly nutritious. After replacing the old seeds with new seeds, use the old seeds in your everyday meals. This way you do not waste a great food source or money. They will be a great addition to any recipe or just nibble on them as a snack. As a precaution, I don't want any lawsuits, look online for information on the seeds you have and if you can eat them. I have yet to find one I could not eat but there could be one that I am unaware of.

A great way to get seeds without having to buy them directly is also to remove the seeds from the vegetables and fruits you buy for consumption. Many of these will germinate if treated properly. After removing them from their fruit or vegetable, clean and sun dry them in a window. Then just store them in a cool, dry area. It is best to look online on the proper way to germinate and grow each seed before doing so. Some seeds grow and produce better in certain environments than others. In some cases, they germinate and grow easier and faster if you remove their outer shell before planting them. I learned this when working with a mango seed.

Note: Make certain you check background information on the fruit and vegetable brands you choose first because some go through a radiation process that makes the seeds not grow. The process helps to kill off bacteria that could be harmful to us, but it always kills the seeds so that they either do not germinate or never produce fruit.

There are also some fruits and vegetables that will not produce unless they have both female and male species available. Be sure to do the research before you buy so that you know what you are growing and how to properly grow them for success.

By obtaining seeds to store, you are ensuring a constant food source for yourself, especially when dealing with a long duration. You can only store so much food and seeds give you the extra you need for when the food runs out.

Medicine: Medicine needs to be stored with caution. As medicine sits, it can either lose its effectiveness or can make you really sick or even kill you. Any medicine you choose to store, you want to make certain that you carefully list their expiration date on your list and keep them in cool, dry, dark places.

Some medicines require refrigeration. These may be an issue in a survival situation when electricity may not be available. These items are typically short-lived such as insulin which has only a 28-day expiration. For these items, you would need to speak with your doctor about alternative medicine that you can purchase that can be stored for extended periods of time. In some cases, there are herbal supplements that can be stored in place of western medicine for use, such as willow bark in place of aspirin for headaches and minor pain.

Note: Before making the decision as to what medicines you are going to store, I can not stress enough to speak with your physician first. Some illnesses require special medications that are essential to your life and you need a professional opinion on your options. If you do choose to try herbal medications, see a professional alternative medicines doctor. They can advise on the right herbs and dosage. You may even wish to try them out first to make certain they work for you before the situation arises where you will need to depend on them.

Stage 3: Learn

Now you have all kinds of items in your survival arsenal, but how much of it do you fully understand how to use? Do you know how to make a fire? How to hunt? How to make an emergency shelter? There are hundreds of instructional videos and tutorials on the net (YOUTUBE!) that can explain various different methods for all kinds of situations. You can learn things such as how to use a wood burning stove to create gasoline for your vehicle or even how to build a wood burning stove using oil drums or junk metal that you may find. There is a wealth of knowledge to be had in this area. It's just a matter of taking the time to find them and utilize the information.

Practice, Practice, Practice!

Once you have researched the information, now is the time to apply them. As they say, practice makes perfect. Take what you have learned and practice it. I used a teddy bear to practice my sewing skills after watching a video on how to stitch up a wound. I was required to use this skill on myself once while injured on a camping trip. In my opinion, I did a pretty decent job...and I owe it to the information I looked up and the amount of time I practiced the method.

If you purchased books (I recommend buy books on wild edible plants with full-color pictures most especially), study them to the point of memorization...but keep them with your survival inventory. Refer to them constantly when in need, especially when it comes to picking wild edible plants. There are numerous plants and fungi that look exactly the same but one could be poisonous while one can be eaten. Same goes for various species of insects as well. Learn how to tell the difference and when in doubt...do without.

By learning as much as you can about your equipment and survival techniques you lessen the chances of “accidents” to occur and open the door for a more “comfortable” survival experience.

While knowledge is power, ignorance can be deadly. So never believe that you have all the information you need, there is always new information to learn.

Stage 4: Maintenance

Now that you have your arsenal of survival items, you will need to maintain them periodically. This is very important. You can't just seal everything up and leave it sitting until it is needed. Otherwise, when you do need it, it will be useless to you. You don't want that to happen. You want to set a date every 6 months or every year that is strictly for inventory. Don't stress, you don't have to do it all in one day or even exactly on that day. You just want to mark a date so that you know approximately when to do it. You should set up reminders on your computer or cell phone to alert you when that day is coming up or write it down on your agenda or calendar. Whichever works best for you.

This is where your permanent list comes into play. You will retrieve your list and going by your list, you are going to check your inventory. Make sure that items are not expired or going to expire. If it is expired, throw it out. If it is going to expire soon, put it aside to use immediately. Food items that will expire soon can be eaten so as not to waste it. This will also be a good way for you to learn how to cook these foods where it makes it enjoyable to eat. It took me a month to figure out the right ratio of water to dry for freeze-dried meals to make them taste right to me. The instructions on the label help but everyone has different taste, so testing it out helps you to find the right ratio. It also allows you the chance to try out the foods to decide if you like it or not. So when you stock the food, you can decide which ones you want. For instance, I abhor the dehydrated vegetable mix because the potato that is in it tastes awful to me but my friend loves it. Needless to say, I do not buy it but he has it fully stocked.

You want to dust and oil many of your electronic or mechanical devices at this time as well. Turn them on to make sure they are in working order. The last thing you want is to be in need of it and it does not work. Follow the instruction manual on how to operate it. It is also good to turn them on because most electronic and mechanical devices do not do well sitting for a long period of time unused. The longer these devices sit the less chance they will work.

Hunting and defensive gear should be cleaned and oiled properly. These items can have problems if they are not properly cared for or left unused for a long period of time. Make certain there is no dust or dirt built up in them and there are some things that need oiling periodically. Follow instructions for this process. During the learning stage, you would have learned the proper care methods for these devices. Now you can put those lessons into practice so that they become second nature to you.

Make certain that as you do this, you make adjustments to your inventory list. If need be, create a new list of what you need to get to replace the stuff you take out and how many. Accuracy is essential, you don't want to come up short or think you have something there that you don't. This will also give you a chance to think about what you have versus what you may need. As you go through the learning stage, you gain new information as to what is out there. You may rethink your previous decisions and change them to something different. Nothing has to go to waste though. Just move them out of storage into the home to use as a regular item or sell them to other people. I have been keeping mine to the side as barter items.

Note: DO NOT use anything that is expired. There is a reason items have expiration dates. If you use these items past their expiration date you are taking a huge risk. Especially things that you would consume such as food and medicine. These items can either make you very sick or can be fatal.

So that concludes my basic instructions for survival preparation. Remember, these are merely guidelines and not the only methods out there. I encourage you to seek out more information elsewhere. The more information you obtain the greater your chance of success. One method you may use to find the right information is, if they are stressing about particular products...they

are trying to sell not inform. If they mention a product they use but talk generally on the subject...they are trying to inform. Stick with those who are trying to inform more so than the ones trying to sell. That is the method I use to differentiate between bull and what is real.

Good luck and thank you for buying my book. Keep your eyes out for more instructional books in the future that will expand on the information here for your collection.

Suggested Starter Inventory

Medical

Sterile Gauze	Cortisone Cream	Cotton Balls
Variety Band-aids	Antifungal Cream	Rubbing Alcohol
Triple Antibiotic Ointment	Butterfly Strips	Hydrogen Peroxide
Sutures	Tourniquet	Antiseptic Wipes or Spray
Surgical Scissors	Elastic Bandage	Carpet Needle
Long Tweezers	Splint or air cast	Bee Sting Kit
Snake Bite Kit	Q-Tips	Epi-pen
Clotting Accelerating Agent	Sanitary Napkins	Tampons
Surgical Knife	Pen light	Duck Tape
Super Glue	Surgical Clamps	Surgical Gloves
Hemorrhoid Cream	Antiseptic Mouth Wash	Safety Pens
Aspirin	Topical Pain Ointment	Ibuprophen
Alieve	Antacid	Antidiarrheal
Diuretic	Stool Softener	Laxitive
Eye Wash	Prescriptions	Midol/Pamprin

Food

Beef Jerky/nuggets	Freeze Dried Meals	Dehydrated Fruit
Powdered Milk	Dried Beans	Rice
Canned Meat	Canned Fruit	Canned Vegetables
Freeze Dried Vegetables	Instant Coffee	Tea
Flour	Baking Powder	Salt
Pepper	Sugar	Ramen

Dry Dog Food

Dry Cat Food

Baby Formula/Food

Seeds

Tomato

Turnips

Chard

Squash

Asparagus

Spinach

Cabbage

Cauliflower

Broccoli

Hunting

Crossbow

Arrows

Rifle

Ammunition

Hunting Knife

Skinning Knife

Traps/Snares

Rope

Hooks

Fishing pole

Fishing Net

Fishing Tackle

Bone Saw

Hatchet

Game Meat Bags

Other

Atmospheric Water Generator

Solar Generator

Solar Cells

Wind Turbine

Wind Power Generator

Row Boat & Oars

Cloth Diapers

Diaper Pens

Clothes Line Pens

Wash Board

Zote Soap Bars

Camp Shower

Camp Stove

Butane Canisters (for stove) 50 Gallon Water Container

Tent

Ham Radio

CB Radio

Flex Seal Tape/paint

Hygiene Products

Fire Bow

[illegible]

Out Of The Box

I am writing this section because I got quite a few questions about some of the items I listed as suggested items. I intend to write a book that explains more on this but here is a brief explanation for some of the items I listed.

There are “out of the box” ways you can use some items that many do not realize they can be used for. These items are items that you want to have in your inventory as a “just in case”. For instance, I listed Tampons in my list of suggested inventory. Many asked me, why did I list that? Well, Tampons are useful for many things besides feminine reasons. There are many items that can be used for various survival reasons.

A single tampon can be used in water filtration, plugging open wounds, weapons cleaning, and so much more. Safety pins can be used for holding not only cloth together but open wounds as well. They can also be used as a makeshift fishing hook. Superglue can be used for holding items together as well as minor to medium wounds. FlexSeal® Tape can be used to water seal everything from tents (though they may be a bit heavy if layered too much) to shoes. As a joke, I used it on an old pair of pants. They were a bit stiff, but they were waterproof!

Here is a prime example I love to tell. A friend and I were in the mountains on a camping trip in the middle of winter. Don't ask why, it seemed like a good idea at the time. The first day we were there it began raining and we ended up soaking wet. His tent was so full of holes from previous camping trips we may as well have been outside in the freezing rain. We ended up having to walk two miles back to his VW Beetle parked on the road to sleep for the night. The next day, we assessed our situation and decided we were not willing to give up the trip regardless of the fact we both were cold and wet and there were snow clouds approaching us.

With the decision made that we would tough it out, we had to find a way to create a suitable shelter. Low and behold, he opens the “trunk” and there inside was a box of FlexSeal® Tape. He had purchased it because he wanted to test it out based on their commercial showing it could repair a boat. So we took the tape and used it to recreate the tent. It was a bit heavier and the poles were a little stressed, but it worked. That night, it not only rained again but there was sleete with it. However, we were warm and dry in the tent. The tape trapped the heat and made the tent water tight.

On another trip I went on, a woman in our group fell and sliced open her leg. Problem was, no one thought to pack a first aid kit and the wound was a bit deep. Luckily, we were a group of women and we all had sanitary napkins (period pads). I happen to have packed a small roll of Duck Tape. I placed two pads over the wound and Duck Taped it down. It held for the 40 mile hike back to town where she could be professionally treated.

There are many “out of the box” ideas out there. You just have to do the research on it OR use your own imagination.